



NRC NEWS

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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NRC REGION IV OFFICE IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS IMPLEMENTS HURRICANE RESPONSE PROCEDURE FOR WATERFORD AND RIVER BEND

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Region IV office in Arlington, Texas has implemented its hurricane response procedure for monitoring of Tropical Storm Isidore as it nears the Waterford and River Bend commercial nuclear power plants near New Orleans and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The office will activate its Incident Response Center at about 4:00 p.m. (CDT) today. NRC inspectors from the Region IV office are currently at each of the two sites reviewing preparations for the impending severe weather. NRC regional administrator Ellis Merschhoff said the agency will continue to closely monitor events at the two plants until the storm passes and no longer threatens plant operations. He said the NRC is maintaining close contact and coordination with the State of Louisiana.

As of 10:00 a.m. (CDT) today, Isidore was located about 270 miles south of New Orleans. Projected landfall is near New Orleans in the early morning hours tomorrow.

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